In the claims:

1-39. (Cancelled)

40. (Presently Amended) A dry powder for delivery by inhalation to the lungs, the dry powder produced by a ~~the~~ method comprising: ~~of claim 1~~.

(i) dissolving a polyene antifungal compound in an acidified solvent to form an acidic polyene-containing solution, and

(ii) spray drying said polyene-containing solution to form an inhaleable dry powder containing no more than about 10% polyene degradation products and characterized by an emitted dose greater than 60%.

41. (Presently Amended) A dry powder produced by a ~~the~~ method comprising: ~~of claim 21.~~

(i) suspending a polyene antifungal compound in an aqueous solvent to form a suspension,

(ii) wet milling the suspension from (i) to form a wet-milled suspension, and

(iii) spray drying the wet milled suspension to produce an inhaleable dry powder containing no more than about 10% polyene degradation products and characterized by an emitted dose greater than about 60%.

42. (Original) A spray-dried powder composition suitable for oral inhalation to the lung comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a polyene antifungal compound, wherein the composition comprises no more than about 10% polyene degradation products and is characterized by an emitted dose greater than about 60%.

43. (Original) The powder composition of claim 42, containing no more than about 5% polyene degradation products.

44. (Original) The powder composition of claim 42, wherein the powder comprises particles having an MMAD of less than about 5 microns.

45. (Original) The powder composition of claim 44, wherein the powder comprises particles having an MMAD of less than about 3.5 microns.

46. (Original) The powder composition of claim 42, which is non-proteinaceous.

47. (Original) The powder composition of claim 42, wherein said polyene is nystatin or amphotericin B.

48. (Original) The powder composition of claim 42, wherein said polyene is non-encapsulated.

49. (Presently Amended) The powder composition of claim 48, wherein said polyene is non-liposome and ~~or~~ non-polymer encapsulated.

50. (Original) The powder composition of claim 42 substantially comprising neat polyene.

51. (Original) The powder composition of claim 42, further comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

52. (Original) The powder composition of claim 51, wherein said excipient is selected from the group consisting of buffers, leucine, and trileucine.

53. (Original) The powder composition of claim 51, comprising at least about 30% by weight polyene.

54. (Original) The powder composition of claim 53, comprising at least about 50% by weight polyene.

55. (Original) The powder composition of claim 42, having a water content greater than about 4% by weight.

56. (Original) The powder composition of claim 55, having a water content ranging from about greater than 4% by weight to about 10% by weight.

57. (Original) A spray-dried powder composition suitable for oral inhalation to the lung comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a polyene antifungal compound and a leucyl-containing excipient comprising from 1 to 3 amino acid residues.

58. (Original) An aerosolized, spray-dried powder composition suitable for oral inhalation to the lung comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a polyene antifungal compound, wherein the composition comprises no more than about 10% polyene degradation products and is characterized by an emitted dose greater than about 60%.

59. (Original) A method for treating or preventing fungal infection in a subject in need thereof, said method comprising administering to said subject by oral inhalation a therapeutically effective amount of a spray dried powder composition of claim 42 in aerosolized form.

60. (Cancelled)